the producers are also directly and indirectly owned by the drug companies; and

(e) if so, what is the connection of each producers with drug companies and what are the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) While fixing/revising the price of a formulation, the packing material costs are allowed after verification of documents submitted by the formulator in support of his claim, however, subject to internal ceilings adopted for various pack sizes. Ceilings are fixed and revised from time to time on the basis of recommendations of BICP. The study conducted by BICP in this regard analyses and evaluates data available from manufacturers of formulations, suppliers of packing materials and on the spot verification at public sector units to arrive at an average cost.

Prices of Betamethasone and its salts

142. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1130 given in Rajya Sabha on 7th May, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of Betemethasone and its salts shown as the previous prices were those recommended by the Murthy Committee;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Murthy Committee did not recommend the prices on any basis and it was therefore, decided to review their findings;

(c) if so, what was the outcome of this review and when was it completed; and

(d) by when these review was carried out and if the prices were found justified then to what period do they relate and what was the cost shown as per Cost Audit Reports during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) The prices of Betamethasone and its salts as recommended by the Murthy Committee were notified on 2.1.89 and these recommendations were not subjected to any review subsequently.

Case of M/s. Hoechst

143. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1134 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th May, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the process of consideration, hearing and passing of speaking order in the case of M/s. Hoechst following the speaking order have since been completed;

(b) if so, what is the outcome of this process when it completed and when the speaking order was passed;

(c) whether this company has given complete details till date or not;

(d) whether Government are intending to recover the amount from this company or bent upon giving them the concessions one after another without any justification; and

(e) what steps have been taken to investigate the bureaucrats muddle which resulted in reducing Rs. 100 crore liability only to Rs. 3.19 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) The tentative liability of M/s Hoechst for the entire period is in the process of being determined. For this purpose, to the extent complete data does not become available from the company, the Government will have no alternative but to make use of the data which becomes available from whichever source. After the liability has been tentatively determined in this way, the company will be given a hearing as